



99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

SB1375

Introduced 2/18/2015, by Sen. Michael E. Hastings

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/27-3 from Ch. 122, par. 27-3
105 ILCS 5/27A-11.10 new

Amends the School Code. In provisions that prohibit a student from receiving a certificate of graduation without passing a satisfactory examination upon the subjects of American patriotism and the principles of representative government and the proper use and display of the American flag, provides that the examination for high school students must include test questions that are identical to the 100 test questions listed in the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, and a pupil may not be considered to have satisfactorily passed the examination without correctly answering at least 60 of those 100 questions. Also requires this testing in charter schools.

LRB099 07812 NHT 27947 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES
ACT MAY REQUIRE
REIMBURSEMENT

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 27-3 and by adding Section 27A-11.10 follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/27-3) (from Ch. 122, par. 27-3)

7 Sec. 27-3. Patriotism and principles of representative
8 government - Proper use of flag - Method of voting - Pledge of
9 Allegiance. American patriotism and the principles of
10 representative government, as enunciated in the American
11 Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United
12 States of America and the Constitution of the State of
13 Illinois, and the proper use and display of the American flag,
14 shall be taught in all public schools and other educational
15 institutions supported or maintained in whole or in part by
16 public funds. No student shall receive a certificate of
17 graduation without passing a satisfactory examination upon
18 such subjects. Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, the
19 examination for high school students must include test
20 questions that are identical to the 100 test questions listed
21 in the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the
22 United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, and a pupil
23 may not be considered to have satisfactorily passed the

1 examination without correctly answering at least 60 of those
2 100 questions.

3 Instruction shall be given in all such schools and
4 institutions in the method of voting at elections by means of
5 the Australian Ballot system and the method of the counting of
6 votes for candidates.

7 The Pledge of Allegiance shall be recited each school day
8 by pupils in elementary and secondary educational institutions
9 supported or maintained in whole or in part by public funds.

10 (Source: P.A. 92-612, eff. 7-3-02.)

11 (105 ILCS 5/27A-11.10 new)

12 Sec. 27A-11.10. Civics examination. Beginning with the
13 2016-2017 school year, no charter school student may receive a
14 certificate of high school graduation without satisfactorily
15 passing an examination that includes test questions that are
16 identical to the 100 test questions listed in the civics
17 portion of the naturalization test used by the United States
18 Citizenship and Immigration Services. A pupil may not be
19 considered to have satisfactorily passed the examination
20 without correctly answering at least 60 of those 100 questions.